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| 09/693,647   | 10/20/2000  | Paul Lapstun         | NPA059US            | 7276             |
| 24011  | 7590        | 10/07/2003           | EXAMINER            |                  |
| SILVERBROOK RESEARCH PTY LTD<br>393 DARLING STREET<br>BALMAIN, 2041<br>AUSTRALIA |             |                      | THAI, CUONG T       |                  |
|  |             |                      | ART UNIT            | PAPER NUMBER     |
|  |             |                      | 2173                | 3                |

DATE MAILED: 10/07/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/693,647

Applicant(s)

LAPSTUN ET AL.

Examiner

CUONG T THAI

Art Unit

2173

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-34 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-34 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.  
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- 1) ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - 2) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
  - 3) ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 3.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

**PART III. DETAILED ACTION**

1. Claims 1-34 are presented for examination.

***Specification***

2. The applicant needs to update information of co-pending application. Correction is required for including the application serial numbers of co-pending application on pages 1, 2, 12-14, 18, and 22.
3. On page 19, the applicant needs to update the patent number issued to Bennett et al. U.S. Patent Number 5,051,746 is issued to Van de Grift et al. not Bennett et al. Correction is required.

***Abstract Objections***

4. The abstract is objected to because it includes inadvertent "Figure 8". Correction is required.

***Claims Objections***

5. Claims 1, 4, 5 (line 3); claim 3 (line 1); and claims 20, 23, 24 (line 2) are objected due to minor informality of missing semicolon punctuation. Corrections are required.
6. Claim 6 is objected to because of self-dependency. Claim 6 should be changed to depend on claim 5.
7. Claims 21 and 22 are objected to because they cannot depend on another set of claim. Claims 21 and 22 should be changed to depend on claim 20.
8. Claims 7 and 26 are objected to minor informality of spelling. Claims 7 and 26, line 8, changed to "authorizing".

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

9. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 (e) that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office Action:

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) do not apply to the examination of this application as the application being examined was not (1) filed on or after November 29, 2000, or (2) voluntarily published under 35 U.S.C. 122(b). Therefore, this application is examined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

10. Claims 1-11, 15, 17-18, 20-29 and 33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Humpleman et al. (USPN: 6,288,716 B1) hereinafter Humpleman.

As per claims 1 (method) and 20 (system), Humpleman discloses a method of enabling a device to be controlled in which the device is operative to perform at least one function in response to control instructions from a computer system, the method includes the step of:

Providing a control interface containing information relating to the device function, the control interface including coded data indicative of an identity of the control interface and at least one reference point of control interface are taught by Humpleman as the technique of to enable a user to initiate an available service, when the user selects a particular home device button 712 from the device link page 710, the session manager causes the top-level home page of the selected home device to be displayed within a frame contained in the session page 702. When the user selects the device button 712 for Dad's TV, the session manager displays the top-level home page 804 for the respective home device in a frame 706 of the session page 802 (see col. 15, lines 57-67);

Receiving indicative from a sensing device regarding the identity of the control interface and a position of the sensing device relative to the control interface, sensing the indicative data using at least some coded data and an operation relating to at least one parameter of the control instruction are taught by Humpleman as the technique of when the user selects the device button 712 corresponding to Jim's DVD, in this example, the session manager displays the top-level home page 904 for the respective home device in a frame 708 of the session page 902 (see col. 17, lines 63-67 and Fig. 11), a single command set may be used in a remote control for controlling plural devices (see col. 8, lines 46-48) for the disc Ben Hur selection and playing (see Fig.11) by creating parameter action value of Parameter List in macro file (see Fig. 15). These claims are therefore rejected for the reasons as set forth above.

As per claims 4 (method) and 23 (system), due to the mostly similarity of each of these claims to that of claim 1, except for the limitation of regarding movement of the sensing device relative to the control interface, sensing the data regarding to at least one parameter using at least some of coded data and its own movement relative to the control interface and interpret said movement of the sensing device. The limitation of regarding movement of the sensing device relative to the control interface, sensing the data regarding to at least one parameter using at least some of coded data and its own movement relative to the control interface and interpret said movement of the sensing device is taught by Humpleman as the technique of if a user wishes to play a video on the DTV, the service will consist of the playing of a video in the DVCR and the displaying of the respective video on DTV. After the user selects the PLAY command option on the DVCR, the DVCR, among other task, choose the isochronously stream that the video signal will be broadcast on. This information, as well as other pertinent information regarding the signals to be broadcast are subsequently forwarded to the session manager. The session manager, upon receiving the data specifications from the DVCR, forwards the information to the DTV, in order that the DTV may properly initialize its hardware to display the video signal broadcast by the DVCR (see col. 20, lines 39-53 and see Fig. 13). These claims are therefore rejected for the reasons as set forth above.

As per claims 5 (method) and 24 system), due to the mostly similarity of each of these claims to that of claim 1, except for the limitation of data from a sensing device regarding an identity of the user and regarding the identity of the control interface, the

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sensing device containing the data regarding the identity of the user and sensing the data regarding the identity of the control interface. The limitation of a sensing device regarding an identity of the user and regarding the identity of the control interface, the sensing device containing the data regarding the identity of the user and sensing the data regarding the identity of the control interface are taught by Hunpleman as the technique of Dads TV and Jims DVD of available devices and top-level main pages of Samsung TV 806 and Zenith DVD 906 (see Fig. 11) wherein the DHCP server 106 on the home network 100 generates a unique IP address and for each home device that is available on the home network 100, retrieves a logical name pair from the device, if an individual home device on the home network 100 has a predefined IP address already associated with it, the DHCP server 106 uses the predefined IP address as unique IP address from that home device (see col. 11, lines 38-45). These claims are therefore rejected for the reasons as set forth above.

As per claims 2 (method) and 21 (system), the limitation of at least one parameter relating to control instructions is associated with at least one zone of the control interface and in which the method includes effecting an operation relating to at least one parameter is taught by Humpleman as the technique of Macro List of HTML page 1214 for entering Parameter value and Command Actions of Macro File 1210 and 1310 (see Figs. 15-16). These claims are therefore rejected for the reasons as set forth above.

As per claim 3, the limitation of receiving data regarding movement of the sensing device relative to the control interface and effecting an operation relating to at least one parameter of the control instruction is taught by Humpleman as the technique of Create Macro of HTML GUI interface 1302 for Command action 1308 (see Fig. 16) and if a user wishes to play a video on the DTV, the service will consist of the playing of a video in the DVCR and the displaying of the respective video on DTV. After the user selects the PLAY command option on the DVCR, the DVCR, among other task, choose the isochronously stream that the video signal will be broadcast on. This information, as well as other pertinent information regarding the signals to be broadcast is subsequently forwarded to the session manager. The session manager, upon receiving the data specifications from the DVCR, forwards the information to the DTV, in order that the DTV may properly initialize its hardware to display the video signal broadcast by the DVCR (see col. 20, lines 39-53 and see Fig. 13). This claim is therefore rejected for the reasons as set forth above.

As per claims 6, 22, and 25; due to the partially similarity of each of these claim to that of claim 3, these claims are therefore rejected for the same reason applied to claim 3.

As per claims 7 (method) and 26 (system), the limitation of in which the parameter of the control instructions comprising selecting device is taught by Humpleman as the technique of if a user wishes to play a video on the DTV, the service



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will consist of the playing of a video in the DVCR and the displaying of the respective video on DTV. After the user selects the PLAY command option on the DVCR, the DVCR, among other task, choose the isochronously stream that the video signal will be broadcast on (see col. 20, lines 39-45 and see Fig. 13). These claims are therefore rejected for the reasons as set forth above.

As per claims 8 (method) and 27 (system), the limitation of issuing a command code to said device to perform function in response to operation is taught by Humpleman as the technique of a macro is a sequence of commands that is saved in memory on a home device and which can be accessed and executed by a user (see col. 21, lines 30-32) and Jims DVD 904 playing Ben Hur based upon Ben Hur Disc selection (see Fig. 11). These claims are therefore rejected for the reasons as set forth above.

As per claim 9, the limitation of the command code is issued to said device through sensing device is taught by Humpleman as the technique of user can activate command code through command buttons Eject, Fast Reverse, Play, Fast Forward, and Pause on Jims DVD (see Fig. 11). This claim is therefore rejected for the reason as set forth above.

As per claims 10 (method) and 28 (system), the limitation of the command code is issued to said device independently of said sensing device is taught by Humpleman

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as the technique of a single command set may be used in a remote control for controlling plural devices by communicating with the client device rendering of the GUI (see col. 8, lines 46-49) instead of issued command on top-level page of Jims DVD (see Fig. 11). These claims are therefore rejected for the reasons as set forth above.

As per claim 11, the limitation of the command code is issued to device using wireless technology is taught by Humpleman as the technique of a single command set may be used in a remote control for controlling plural devices by communicating with the client device rendering of the GUI (see col. 8, lines 46-49). This claim is therefore rejected for the reasons as set forth above.

As per claims 15 (method) and 33 (system), the limitation of retaining a retrievable record of each control interface generated, the control interface retrievable using its identity is taught by Humpleman as the technique of wherein the DHCP server 106 on the home network 100 generates a unique IP address and for each home device that is available on the home network 100, retrieves a logical name pair from the device, if an individual home device on the home network 100 has a predefined IP address already associated with it, the DHCP server 106 uses the predefined IP address as unique IP address from that home device (see col. 11, lines 38-45) and created macros are associated with a particular name so that they may be easily retrieved and executed at a later time (see col. 22, lines 22-24). These claims are therefore rejected for the reasons as set forth above.

As per claims 17 (method) and 29 (system), the limitation of an identification means which imparts a unique identity to the sensing device and identifies it as belonging to a particular user and in which the method includes monitoring said identity is taught by Humpleman as the technique of the DHCP server 106 on the home network 100 generates a unique IP address and for each home device that is available on the home network 100, retrieves a logical name pair from the device, if an individual home device on the home network 100 has a predefined IP address already associated with it, the DHCP server 106 uses the predefined IP address as unique IP address from that home device (see col. 11, lines 38-45) and created macros are associated with a particular name so that they may be easily retrieved and executed at a later time. When the player piano macro is executed, it performs the particular sequence of instructions as if the user was accessing the respective home device HTML pages and executing the sequence of steps directly (see col. 22, lines 22-28) and execution of the macro generation process causes a user interaction to be interpreted. The respective action is copied into a macro file 1310, which is saved on the respective home device and assigned a unique macro name. The macro name is saved as a macro name button on the home device's macro list HTML PAGE 1314. Thereafter, a user may select the macro name button, causing the respective macro file to be executed (see col. 22, lines 33-42). These claims are therefore rejected for the reasons as set forth above.

As per claim 18, the limitation of providing all required information relating to the device function in the control interface to eliminate the need for a separate display device is taught by Humpleman as the technique of session manager 902 displays the top-level Samsung Dads TV 804 and top-level Zenith Jims DVD 904 as well as their functional controls such as Power, Channel control, Brightness control, Volume control, Contrast control, Eject control, Fast Reverse control, Play control, Fast Forward control, and Pause control (see Fig. 11). This claim is therefore rejected for the reason as set forth above.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

11. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

12. Claims 12-13, 19, 30-31 and 34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Humpleman et al. (USPN: 6,288,716) hereinafter Humpleman as applied to claims above in view of Applicant's admitted IDS issued to Redford et al. (USPN: 5,839,905) hereinafter Redford.

As per claim 12, Humpleman discloses the invention substantially as claimed above. Humpleman, however, does not disclose the further limitation of printing the control interface on demand.

Redford discloses the limitation of printing the control interface on demand as the technique of a remote control for interactive media includes remote control circuitry and one or more feature from a printed publication such as a book, magazine or a catalog. A printed publication remote control in accordance with this invention includes a printed publication having printed content and one or more buttons connected to a remote control circuitry which allows users to remotely control use of associated content by a host device (see col. 2, lines 46-55).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include Redford's printing the control interface on demand into that of Humpleman's devices controlled interface invention. By doing so, the system would be enhanced by allowing user to access multimedia contents and print multimedia content based on user's desired topic(s). Thus, the system would provide more option and/or tool to an end user.

As per claim 13, Humpleman discloses the invention substantially as claimed above. Humpleman, however, does not disclose the further limitation of printing the control interface on a surface of a surface-defined means and at the same time the control interface printing the coded data on the surface.

Redford discloses the limitation of printing the control interface on a surface of a surface-defined means and at the same time the control interface printing the coded data on the surface as the technique of an application development system allows an author to quickly create interactive applications for children. For example, to create a

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picture book remote control, the author needs to (1) draw pictures, scan them and store them (2) write captions and store them (3) record sounds and store them and (4) run a compiler engine to generate a run file (see col.5, lines 59-65) and the printed text and/or graphic content can indicate user direction and selections data/code accessible by a button 1 (see col. 10, lines 44-46).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include Redford's printing the control interface on a surface of a surface-defined means and at the same time the control interface printing the coded data on the surface into that of Hump leman's device control interface. By doing so, the system would be enhanced by allowing user to define and authoring the surface of multimedia content based on user's desired demand task.

As per claim 30, due to the similarity of this claim to the combination of claim 12 and claim 13 (limitation a), this claim is therefore rejected for the same reasons applied to claims 12 and 13.

As per claim 3, due to the similarity of this claim to the limitation b) of claim 13, this claim is therefore rejected for the same reasons applied to claim 13.

As per claims 19 (method) and 34 (system), Humpleman discloses the invention substantially as claimed above. Humpleman, however, does not disclose the further limitation of printed on multiple pages and includes binding the pages.

Redford discloses the limitation of printed on multiple pages and includes binding the pages as the technique of as the technique of a remote control for interactive media includes remote control circuitry and one or more feature from a printed publication such as a book, magazine or a catalog (see col. 2, lines 46-49) wherein on receipt of the button code, the application computes the next page address from the current page address, retrieve from associated electronic content 133C, the electronic content for the next page and displays the retrieved electronic content on host device. Such a display causes a first page image to be replaced by a second page image and so on (see col. 13, lines 26-34) and Define # of pages (see Fig. 9B).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include Redford's printed on multiple pages and includes binding the pages into that of Humpleman's device controlled interface. By doing so, the system would be enhanced by allowing user to access multimedia content pages in term of book, magazine and/or catalog on user's display screen from user's host device.

13. Claim 16 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Humpleman et al. (USPN: 6,288,716) hereinafter Humpleman as applied to claim above in view of Tseng et al. (USPN: 6,119,159) hereinafter Tseng.

As per claim 16, Humpleman discloses the invention substantially as claimed above. Humpleman, however, does not disclose the limitation of distributing a plurality of control interfaces using a mixture of multicast and pointcast protocols.

Tseng discloses the limitation of distributing a plurality of control interfaces using a mixture of multicast and pointcast protocols as the technique of a CMIC (Cabinet Module Interface Controller) 14 coupled to and controlling one or more Chassis Management Board 16. Both the CMIC and CMB are embedded controller that are configured in a hierarchy to form the foundation for the Distributed Service Subsystem (see col. 3, lines 5-10) for specify interfaces that preclude the need for the managed components to adapt to the Distributed Service Subsystem (see col. 3, lines 16-18) wherein all system event message are broadcast, multicast, or pointcast onto the SLAN using a well-defined format by one or more "station" (see col. 4, lines 44-47).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include Tseng's distributing a plurality of control interfaces using a mixture of multicast and pointcast protocols into that of Humpleman's controlled interface. By doing so, the system would be enhanced by allowing Cabinet Module Interface Controller communicate, send, and control event message to component protocols which received message.

14. Claims 14 and 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Humpleman et al. (USPN: 6,288,716) hereinafter Humpleman as applied to claims above in view of Applicant's admitted IDS issued to Redford et al. (USPN: 5,839,905) hereinafter Redford and further in view of Applicant's admitted IDS issued to Interval Research Corporation (WO 99/18487).



As per claims 14 (method) and 32 (system), Humpleman-Redford discloses the invention substantially as claimed above. Humpleman-Redford, however, does not disclose the limitation of printing the coded data to be substantially invisible in the visible spectrum.

Interval Research Corporation discloses the limitation of printing the coded data to be substantially invisible in the visible spectrum as the technique of a content encoding scheme contemplated by the present invention is a bar code printed using invisible, e.g., infrared (IR), inks. Such a bar code would be apparent to the sensor but invisible to the user (see page 9, lines 12-14).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include Interval Research Corporation's printing the coded data to be substantially invisible in the visible spectrum into that of Humpleman-Redford combined invention. By doing so, the system would be enhanced by capable of allowing sensor to coupled to the computer system for reading and/or decoding coded data which invisible to the user. Thus, the system would provide better privacy protection on multi-media content to system's user.

### ***Conclusion***

15. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Applicant is required under 37 C.F.R. 1.111(c) to consider these references fully when responding to this action. The documents cited therein teach a method for home automation system and browser based network which include a

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graphical user interface for linking and controlling diversity of components based on user desired manner.

16. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to CUONG T THAI whose telephone number is (703) 308-7234. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 am - 4:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John W. Cabeca, can be reached at (703) 308-3116.

The fax numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are as follows:

(703) 746-7238 (After Final Communication)

(703) 746-7239 (Official Communication)


(703) 746-7240 (For status inquiries, Draft Communication).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-8000.

CUONG T THAI  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2173

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September 30, 2003.



JOHN CABECA  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2173